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Letter dated 20 May 2005 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

Pursuant to Security Council resolution 1244 (1999), I have the honour to convey the attached reports on the international security presence in Kosovo covering the periods from 1 to 31 December 2004 and from 1 to 31 January 2005 (see annexes).

I should be grateful if these reports could be brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Kofi A. **Annan**

05-35554 (E) 270505

Annex I

Monthly report to the United Nations on the operations of the Kosovo Force

1. This report covers the period from 1 to 31 December 2004.

2. As at 31 December 2004, the total number of troops in theatre was 17,170, including 2,788 troops from non-NATO countries.

3. There is no change in the status of partner/non-NATO country contributions.

Security

4. The general situation in Kosovo, though apparently calm, remains fragile and tense and is expected to remain so for the foreseeable future.

5. Electrical power failures were noted in several areas (5 in Kosovo Serb, 22 in Albanian areas) during December 2004. The province's inability to upgrade its infrastructure is blamed on lack of revenues, essentially because customers have failed to pay their bills.

6. The threat against KFOR remained relatively low throughout the month of December.

7. There were eight ethnically motivated incidents in December 2004, all against Kosovo Serbs.

8. In terms of organized crime, a total of 21 incidents were reported in relation to drug trafficking, illegal weapons finds and smuggling operations during the month of December. This is roughly the same as during November 2004. There was a slight increase in counterfeit currency cases and a slight decrease in drug-related crime.

9. As reported last month, KFOR still continues operations to secure the theatre, prevent ethnic violence and protect patrimonial sites. KFOR also remains vigilant to deter possible threats directed against international organizations and military bases. The NATO force continues to improve its crowd and riot control capabilities so as to be better prepared to counter a resurgence of violence. The possible indictment of the Kosovo Prime Minister, Ramush Haradinaj, may become a cause for future unrest.

Compliance by the Army of Serbia and Montenegro and the Ministry of Internal Affairs Special Police

10. No breaches of the Military Technical Agreement were reported during December 2004.

The Kosovo Protection Corps

11. The current membership of the Kosovo Protection Corps (KPC) remains at 3,028 active members, including 144 from ethnic minorities, of whom 35 are Serbs. The reserve personnel establishment list includes 1,809 members, 17 of whom are from ethnic minorities. The percentage of minority representation has decreased from 5.14 per cent in November to 4.72 per cent in December 2004.

12. During December 2004, the multinational brigades carried out 11 roll calls. The percentage of personnel absent without permission has decreased from 5.53 per cent in November to 3.73 per cent in December 2004.

13. The main training activity was a field training exercise, which was conducted on 7 and 8 December 2004 with the participation of 800 KPC members. The exercise focused on disaster relief support and search and rescue operations. The Government of Kosovo, the Kosovo Police Service, KFOR and UNMIK all participated.

Conclusion

14. Overall the situation in December was relatively calm but tense. Power outages posed a substantial problem for the local population.

Annex II

Monthly report to the United Nations on the operations of the Kosovo Force

1. This report covers the period from 1 to 31 January 2005.

2. As at 31 January 2005, the total number of troops in theatre was 17,264, including 2,788 troops from non-NATO countries.

3. There is no change in the status of partner/non-NATO country contributions.

Security

4. The general situation in Kosovo, though apparently calm, remains fragile and tense and is expected to remain so for the foreseeable future.

5. The main incident to report was the bomb attack against UNMIK police on 13 January 2005 in Prizren. An explosive device put under a police car caused the death of a Nigerian police officer. Police investigations are still ongoing and the reason for the attack is still unclear.

6. Electrical power failures continue to pose problems and could potentially lead to unrest.

7. The reported number of ethnically motivated incidents for January 2005 is eight, the same as in December 2004. Traditionally, the level of these incidents is low during winter months and there is a downward trend compared to the pattern of violence experienced this time last year.

8. There were no reported acts of violence or threats against KFOR.

9. In terms of organized crime, there was a total of 13 incidents related to drug, weapons, and other smuggling activities in January 2005. This is a decrease compared to December, which had witnessed 21 such incidents.

10. KFOR continues operations to prevent ethnic violence and protect patrimonial sites and remains vigilant to deter possible threats directed against international organizations and military bases. The NATO force continues to improve its crowd and riot control capabilities so as to be better prepared to counter resurgence in violence.

Compliance by the Army of Serbia and Montenegro and the Ministry of Internal Affairs Special Police

11. No breaches of the Military Technical Agreement were reported during January 2005.

The Kosovo Protection Corps

12. The current membership of the Kosovo Protection Corps (KPC) is 3,028 active members, including 144 from the ethnic minorities, of whom 35 are Serbs. The reserve personnel establishment list includes 1,809 members, of whom 17 are from the ethnic minorities. The percentage of minorities has increased from 4.72 per cent in December 2004 to 4.75 per cent in January 2005. Task Force 8 was created to stress the minority problem and to propose potential solutions from which a

campaign could be derived. Task Force 8 has begun visiting the recent graduates of the December initial entry training course. As part of a retention plan, the task force will visit each graduate at his/her place of work and determine whether the individual is in regular attendance, how long he/she has been in KPC, and whether he/she has any problems with pay or transportation.

13. During January 2005, the multinational brigades carried out 57 roll calls. The percentage of personnel absent without permission decreased from 3.73 per cent in December 2004 to 0.99 per cent during the reporting period.

14. The Chief of the KFOR Inspectorate for KPC drafted a letter to the KPC Commander, General Ceku, to express KFOR concerns over an increasing number of non-compliance cases (members with magazines fitted into their weapons).

15. Regular training was conducted according to the annual plan. More particularly, on 10 January 2005, six different courses were started: a management course, a leadership course, a computer course, an English course (levels 1 and 2), a basic training course (level 1), and a communication course. Ninety-six members of KPC attended from all pick-up zones.

Conclusion

16. The situation in Kosovo remains apparently calm but fragile and tense.